APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/693,514	10/20/2000	Paul Lapstun	NPS024US	7916

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EXAMINER
PHAM, THIERRY L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

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09/24/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/693,514	LAPSTUN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thierry L. Pham	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _25 July 2007_.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _19,21-39 and 42-62_ is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _19,21-39 and 42-62_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some *   c) ☐ None of:

     1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

     2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

     3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

● This action is responsive to the following communication: an Amendment filed on 7/25/07.

● Claims 19, 21-39 & 42-62 are currently pending; claims 1-18, 20, and 40-41 have been canceled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 19, 21-32, 34-39, 42-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dymetman et al (US 6330976) and Moscato et al (US 6335978), and further in view of Mori (US 6137590).

Regarding claim 19, Dymetman discloses a system (fig. 2) for printing (col. 11, lines 55-60), the system including:

a) a computer system (fig. 9); and

b) a printer (col. 11, lines 55-60) including:

ii) a print mechanism (inherently, all printers include a print mechanism for printing data onto a physical medium, i.e., print media) for printing document information onto a print area (printed marking medium contains plurality of encoded data (i.e. page id and location id) with different zones/areas, figs. 3-10, col. 3, lines 56-60, col. 8, lines 45-67, and col. 9, lines 1-15) provided on said print media, the print area including identity data (i.e. information indicating zones/positions of the areas/zones within the document, figs. 3-10, col. 3, lines 56-60, col. 8, lines 45-67, and col. 9, lines 1-15) indicative of identity information which differentiates the print area from other print areas including identity data;

the computer system (fig. 9) including:

i) a receiver (network computer 610) for receiving (via network, fig. 9) the transmitted data, and

ii) means for generating association data (computer network 610, fig. 11) using said transmitted data, said association data being representative of an association between the document information and the identify information (computer 610 to identify the document being requested using the transmitted coded data from sensor 506, fig. 9 & 11, col. 10, lines 48-67);

iii) means (inherently all computer contains storage memory for storing data, fig. 9) for storing the association data.

Dymetman teaches a printer but does not explicitly include a feed mechanism for feeding print media through a media feed path. In addition, Dymetman also teaches a portable optical sensor 502 for sensing/detecting the coded data printed on the marking medium, but fails to teach and/or suggest such optical sensor 502 is positioned adjacent to the media feed path of said print mechanism, said at least one sensor being configured such that all print media on which said print mechanism has printed said document information are automatically sensed by said at least one sensor.

Moscato, in the same field of endeavor for printing, teaches a printer (printer 15, fig. 3) including a feed mechanism (paper feed mechanism of printer 15, fig. 3) for feeding print media (media 17, fig. 3) through a media feed path and optical sensor (sensor 20, fig. 3) is positioned adjacent to the media feed path downstream (downstream, fig. 3, col. 5, lines 12-14) of said print mechanism and at least one sensor (sensors 20, fig. 3, col. 5, lines 10-67) being configured such that all print media (all printed media, fig. 3) on which said print mechanism has printed said document information are automatically sensed (automatically sensed, fig. 3, col. 5, lines 10-67) by said at least one sensor.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Dymetman as per teachings of Moscato by incorporating the optical sensor within the printer because of a following reason: (●) an optical sensor can be either portable and/or incorporated within the printer itself; (●) to verify if the coded data has been printed correctly (as per teachings of Moscato, abstract and col. 3, lines 1-22).

The combinations of Dymetman and Moscato fail to teach and/or suggest the identity data is represented on the print data in a coded form and the printer includes a decoder which receives coded data from the at least one sensor and outputs decoded data representing at least the identity data or at least the identity information.

Mori, in the same field of endeavor for printing coded data, teaches a well-known example of the identity data is represented on the print data in a coded form (coded data 10a, fig. 2) and the printer includes a decoder (col. 5, lines 10-25) which receives coded data from the at least one sensor and outputs decoded data representing at least the identity data or at least the identity information.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Dymetman and Moscato as per teachings of Mori by printing identity data in form of coded because of a following reason: (●) coded marking medium provides a faster and better (col. 11, lines 35-60 of Mori) method for retrieving document data (i.e. in digital copy) using optical sensor device rather than manually by users via keyboard and etc; (●) resolution of original image can easily maintained via using coded data (col. 14, lines 39-45 of Mori).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Dymetman and Moscato with Mori to obtain the invention as specified in claim 19.

Regarding claim 21, Dymetman further discloses the printer of claim 1 wherein each identity information is represented on the print area by at least two discrete items (i.e. page id and location id, col. 9, lines 5-15) of data and the decoder outputs decoded data representing at least the identity information after receiving said at least two separate items of data.

Regarding claim 22-24, Mori further discloses the printer of claim 1 wherein said at least one sensor is positioned to sense said identity data before/during/after printing of the document information on the respective print area (col. 6, lines 1-15).

Regarding claim 26, Mori further teaches the system of claim 19 wherein said document information is based at least partially on document data received from the computer system (fig. 9).

Regarding claim 27, Mori further teaches the system of claim 19 wherein said printer derives and transmits identity data or identity information (identity information 10a, fig. 7) associated with a print area to the computer system prior to receiving document data associated with said print area.

Regarding claim 28, Mori further teaches the system of claim 19 wherein said document data is based at least partially on the identity information (identity information 10a, fig. 7).

Regarding claim 29, Mori further discloses the system of claim 19 operable to over-print a print area having existing document (text over graphic is well known in the art) information to render the existing document information unreadable.

Regarding claim 30, Mori further teaches the system of claim 29 wherein the association data is modified (col. 10, lines 45-67) to include information indicating the document information indicating the document information of the print area is unreadable.

Regarding claims 31-32, Mori further teaches the system of claim 29 operable to over-print area having existing document information to render the existing document information unreadable and to delete (col. 4, lines 40-67) the association data associated with the print area.

Regarding claim 34, Mori further discloses the printer of claim 1 wherein the at least one sensor is selected from an image sensor (col. 5, lines 10-45) and a magnetic sensor and a chemical sensor.

Regarding claim 35, Mori further discloses the printer of claim 1 wherein the printer generates at least some of the information printed (medium 10 with printed information, fig. 7).

Regarding claim 36, Mori further discloses the printer of claim 1 further including a user interface (control panel as shown in fig. 2) to enable user to input identity information into the printer.

Regarding claims 37-39, 42-58, which are the method claims corresponding to the apparatus claims 1-4, 6-8 and 10, 13, 15-18 and are in the same scope of invention. The method claims are included by the operation of the apparatus claims. Please see claims rejection basis/rationale as described in claims 1-4, 6-8 and 10, 13, 15-18 above.

Regarding claim 59-62, Dymetman further discloses each print area including identity data indicative of an identity of the respective print area (zones/areas, cols. 11-12) and sensors.

Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dymetman and Moscato, and Mori as described in claim 19, and further in view of Ur (US 6072871).

The combinations of Dymetman and Moscato discloses a marking medium contains both coded data and human readable information (col. 14, lines 39-45, col. 35-39, and col. 19, lines 33-42) but fails to teach and/or suggest the printer includes a print mechanism for printing on at least two of print areas substantially simultaneously.

Ur, in the same field of endeavor for printing, teaches an ink jet printer (printer 17, fig. 1) prints the coded data at the same time as printing the document on the surface defining structure (prints coded data 27 and document texts as shown in fig. 2 at the same time, col. 4, lines 41-47).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Dymetman and Moscato as per teaching of Ur because of

a following reason: (●) reduce hardware costs and time by printing both coded data and document data simultaneously.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Moscato, Dymetman, and Ur to obtain the invention as specified in claim 33.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 7/25/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

● Regarding claims 19 & 37, the applicants argued the cited prior arts of record fail to teach and/or suggest a method of generating association data using the transmitted data from the printer. The association data is representative of an association between the document information and the identity information, which is an important step of creating interactive "netpages".

In response, the examiner disagrees. Dymetman teaches a ii) means for generating association data (computer network 610, fig. 11) using said transmitted data, said association data being representative of an association between the document information and the identify information (computer 610 to identify the document being requested using the transmitted coded data from sensor 506, fig. 9 & 11, col. 10, lines 48-67). In addition, Mori also teaches a system wherein a coded data is transmitted to the computer system to retrieve the document information (figs. 14-19). Also, there is no limitations/features in independent claims that mentions "interactive netpages" as argued by applicants.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than
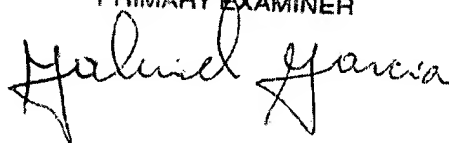
SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Thierry L. Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-

7439. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30 AM - 6:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (571)272-7437. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status

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more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you

have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business

Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO

Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call

800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Thierry L. Pham

GABRIEL GARCIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER